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**FOREST PRODUCTS RESEARCH IN PICTURES**

NO. 76

**TREATING-PLANT PLANK PREACHES  
SERMON ON WOOD ROT**



**FOREST PRODUCTS LABORATORY  
U. S. FOREST SERVICE  
MADISON, WISCONSIN**

This picture shows a walkway as it formerly extended over the treating cylinder in the wood preservation section of the U. S. Forest Products Laboratory. In spite of its elevated location and the rising fumes of hot creosote and other preservative chemicals that frequently bathed it, two badly rotted spots were recently found in the plank shown at the left. The decay spots are directly traceable to drip from two steam valves overhead. Under the peculiar conditions described, the presence of decay forcefully illustrates the fact that when moisture collects in wood decay is an ever-present hazard. Immunity for wood in ordinary service can be had by keeping it dry or by effectively treating it with preservatives.

*Photograph by Forest Products Laboratory,  
U. S. Forest Service*



